

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HELSIN 01134 231454Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /069 W

----- 037313

P R 231316Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8686

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 1134

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, FI

SUBJECT: SORSA GOVERNMENT EXPECTED RESIGN SOON

1. THE MEMBERS OF FOUR PARTY COALITION GOVERNMENT
HEADED BY PRIMIN SORSA ARE REPORTED TO HAVE DECIDED
TO ASK PRESIDENT KEKKONEN TO DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT
AND CALL EARLY ELECTIONS. NO PRECISE DATE HAS BEEN
SET FOR MAKING THIS REQUEST, BUT MAY 29-30 CONSIDERED
MOST LIKELY. REQUEST MEANS IN EFFECT GOVT SUBMITTING
ITS RESIGNATION. THEORETICAL CHANCE REMAINS THAT
KEKKONEN WILL DECIDE TO DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT STILL IN
MAY, WHICH WOULD MEAN AUGUST ELECTIONS. HOWEVER,
ODDS HEAVILY FAVOR HIS WAITING UNTIL JUNE, WITH
ELECTIONS THEN FALLING INTO SEPTEMBER.

2. MAIN REONS FOR LIKELIHOOD KEKKONEN WILL HOLD
OFF UNTIL JUNE IS THAT HE WILL THEN HAVE BETTER
PICTURE OF WHEN CSCE PHASE III MIGHT BE HELD; THAT
PARLIAMENT WILL NOT BE ABLE FINISH WORK ON
LEGISLATION HE HAS CALLED FOR UNTIL SOME TIME IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HELSIN 01134 231454Z

JUNE; AND HIS DESIRE TO AVOID BEING BLAMED IF

SOCIALIST PARTIES FARED BADLY IN AUGUST ELECTION--
AUGUST BEING CONSIDERED POOR MONTH FOR THEM,
BECAUSE OF VACATION EXODUS FROM FINLAND. FINNISH
CSCE REPRESENTATIVE ILONIEMI NOW IN HELSINKI TO
BRING KEKKONEN UP TO DATE ON CSCE PROBABILITIES PRIOR
TO PRESEIDENT' DECISION.

3. IF SORSA GOVT ASKS FOR ELECTIONS AND KEKKONEN
DOES NOT DESOLVE PARLIAMENT IN MAY, EKKKONEN UNDER
CONSTITUTION CULD WAIT TO DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT UNTIL
END OF JUNE AND STILL HAVE ELECTIOHS IN SEPT. HE
ALSO HAS OPTION TO ASK SORSA GOVT TO CONTINUE FOR
TIME BEING, OR UNTIL PARLIAMENT COMPLETES ITS WORK.
IT IS CONSIDERED POSSIBLE THAT HE WILL DO SO BUT
SORSA GOVT CLEARLY WANTS TO BE DISCHARGED WELL BEFORE
ELECTIONS.

4. KEKKONEN THEREFORE LIKELY TO APPOINT AN INTERIM
"EXPERTS" CARETAKER GOVT SOMETIME IN JUNE, WITH
HELSINKI MAYOR AURA STILL FRONT-RUNNER TO BECOME
PM. THIS GOVT COULD SIT SEVERAL MONTHS AND INTO
POST-ELECTION PERIOD SINCE NEGOTIATIONS FOR NEW
COALITION GOVT EXPECTED BE DIFFICULT AND PROTRACTED.

5. SORSA GOVT ON MAY 26 CLIMBS INTO SECOND PLACE
IN LONGEVITY TABLES OF FINNISH GOVERNMENTS AND WILL
PROBABLY REACH VENERABLE AGE OF 1,000 DAYS IN OFFICE
NEXT WEEK BEFORE QUIRRING. IT ALSO EXPECTED TO
RETIRE GRACEFULLY, WITHOUT ANY ONE PARTNER
BREAKING IT APART ACRIMONIOUSLY OVER A PARTICULAR
ISSUE AS HAS USUALLY BEEN THE CASE WITH FINNISH
COALITIONS.

AUSTAD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, REORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975HELSIN01134
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750181-1198
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750524/aaaaavez.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SORSA GOVERNMENT EXPECTED RESIGN SOON
TAGS: PINT, FI, (SORSA, KALEVI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006